

Jordan Times

Greek-Cypriot women storm into north

LYMBRIA, Cyprus (R) — About 2,000 Greek-Cypriot women forced their way past Turkish troops into North Cyprus in two places Sunday to protest the 14-year-old division of their island. Waving white flags and banners reading "we come in peace," one group of about 1,500 women marched through a U.N. buffer zone near Lysabia south east of Nicosia. They were confronted by scores of unarmed Turkish-Cypriot soldiers who tried to push them back. Another group of several hundred women stormed across ceasefire lines to reach the abandoned village of Akbas near the port of Famagusta, said Reuters correspondent Katherine McElroy. The marchers were part of a campaign to cross into North Cyprus by some 3,000 Greek-Cypriot women accompanied by about 200 supporters from the United States, Australia and Europe. It was the third bid by a group called Women Walk Home to protest the division of Cyprus by pushing into the north in as many years. The marchers split into several bus convoys after leaving Nicosia to join U.N. peacekeepers who vowed to try to stop them entering the 250-kilometre buffer zone dividing Cyprus.

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King, Queen return

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Sunday returned home from London, where King Hussein held talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on a number of issues, including the Middle East question and the efforts being made to establish peace in the region. King Hussein flew to London Saturday, March 11, from the Hague where he took part in an international conference on the protection of the ozone layer and signed a declaration drafted at the conference In the Hague, King Hus-

sein held talks with a number of leaders taking part in the conference.

Upon arrival in Amman, Their Majesties were received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, a number of royal family members, senior civil and military officials, the British ambassador and the Dutch chargé d'affaires in Amman.

Also returning with King Hussein and Queen Noor were Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.



Many happy returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Monday, March 20, marks the 42nd birthday of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who was born in Amman in 1947. Prince Hassan is the youngest brother of His Majesty King Hussein and heir to the throne. He played an active role in the development process in Jordan and has recently focused his efforts on pushing

the development wheel forward by encouraging public participation in the decision-making process. Prince Hassan has contributed to the institution building process and to creating the framework which serves development efforts. The Palestine question has always been on top of his agenda and for this reason, he has studied many topics involving

the Palestinian question.

Prince Hassan was behind the formation of the Arab Thought Forum, and is the chairman of its board of trustees. He also co-chairs, with Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Rights, which was established in 1983.

Intifada toll hits 400 as clashes intensify

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A masked Palestinian slashed out at border police troops who chased him into a house in the occupied Gaza Strip Sunday, stabbing three soldiers before being shot and killed, military sources and Israel radio said.

The 26-year-old Arab killed in the attack was the 400th Palestinian to die in the uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip that began in December 1987. Seventeen Israeli have also been killed.

The army confined more than 165,000 people to their homes in five refugee camps and several neighbourhoods of Gaza City in an effort to quell a fresh outbreak of violence, which Arab reporters said was reminiscent in its intensity to the early days of the anti-Israeli revolt.

At least 16 Palestinians were reported wounded Sunday in clashes with soldiers, most in the Gaza Strip where residents staged a general strike to protest the violent deaths of three Arabs a day earlier.

Palestinian teen-agers blocked roads leading into Gaza City with trucks, rocks and burning tires, said the reporter, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "No one can go in and no one can go out," he said.

Bursts of automatic weapons fire could be heard throughout Gaza City as soldiers tried to put down the protests, he said. The streets were deserted of virtually all but military vehicles as students and workers stayed home in the general strike.

Israel Radio said the three border patrol troops were wounded when they chased after a Palestinian who hurled rocks at them and then ran away. The suspect, inside and stabbed the first soldier who broke down the door, the radio said.

A second soldier ran through the doorway and was also stabbed

but managed to cry for help, the radio said. A third soldier was slashed as other troops broke in and opened fire, killing the assailant, the radio said.

The army could not confirm the details of the report.

The dead man was identified by hospital officials as Talal Selim Al Araji, from the city's Daraj neighbourhood. The officials said he was shot in the head and chest.

Military sources, who refused to be identified by name, said the three wounded border patrol soldiers were evacuated to Barzilai hospital in the nearby Israeli town of Ashkelon. Two were reported in moderate condition and the third was said to be lightly wounded.

Deputy army spokesman Colonel Raanan Gissin said the increased violence was the Palestinian underground's way of testing the border police units recently deployed in the occupied territories.

"It's primarily a test of the

(Continued on page 3)

Over 200 Afghan army troops reportedly defect

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (Agencies) — More than 200 Kabul government soldiers defected with tanks and weapons to Afghan rebels in northern Afghanistan, and another 37 were captured in fighting during the civil war, guerrilla sources said Sunday.

A spokesman for the fundamentalist rebel group Jamiat Islami said 43 officers and 165 enlisted men from the Afghan 18th Division joined the rebels last Tuesday near the strategic Salang Highway, about 120 kilometres north of Kabul.

They delivered 12 tanks, 38 ammunition trucks, long-range rockets and other weapons, spokesman Mohammad Shoib said from Jamiat's headquarters in Peshawar, Pakistan.

The rebels, known as Mujahideen, took five officers and 32 soldiers as prisoners during attacks on army posts along the road on March 10, Shoib added.

The rebel report could not be independently verified. But Jamiat is considered one of the strongest rebel military organisations and has been reliable in providing accurate information about the Afghan civil war in the past.

The Afghan rebels have been fighting for 10 years to topple the Kabul government. They have stepped up their attacks since the Soviet Union withdrew its forces on Feb. 15, after fighting for nine years in support of the government.

Shoib said news of the defections came by wireless radio from units of Jamiat's well-known commander, Ahmad Shah Masood.

Masood's troops control much of northern Afghanistan's Panjshir Valley. The Salang Highway runs through the valley, linking Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, with the Soviet Union to the north.

Though not actively fighting in the war any longer, Moscow still sends food and other relief sup-

plies in Afghan trucks down the Salang to Kabul, but the rebels frequently attack the convoys if they suspect them of carrying weapons.

Fighting reportedly continued Sunday around the eastern city of Jalalabad where the rebels have launched their first major urban assault since the Soviet pullout.

Moscow's Red Army left Afghanistan's cities in the hands of Kabul government forces but the rebels control more than 90 per cent of the countryside, according to estimates.

The rebels captured a key garrison near Jalalabad and breached the airport defences but Kabul government forces have stalled the advance with massive aerial and artillery bombardments, reports have said.

Meanwhile Soviet television claimed Saturday that Pakistani troops accounted for about a quarter of the rebel force attacking Jalalabad.

Correspondent Alexander Shkirkando, reporting from Kabul, said about 20,000 Mujahideen rebels and Pakistanis were outside Jalalabad, which has been under siege for two weeks.

"About 25 per cent of (the rebels) attacking Jalalabad are Pakistani servicemen, militiamen or intelligence officers," he said. "According to Afghan sources, both sides have suffered heavy losses, though rebel losses are greater."

The report briefly showed a man Shkirkando said was a captured 26-year-old Pakistani and quoted him as saying how the attack was launched.

"The rebels go first. The Pakistani militia follow them," Shkirkando said. "Units of the Pakistani Armed Forces cover."

Shkirkando said Jalalabad, which the rebels have chosen as the capital of a rival government they set up last month at a meeting in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, was seen by the rebels as a weak point only 70 kilometres from the Pakistani border.

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Arafat arrives in Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived in Baghdad Sunday for an official visit to Iraq, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Arafat said Saturday the uprising in Israeli occupied territories would continue until Israel withdraws from the region.

Arafat, speaking on Czechoslovak television at the end of a one-day visit to Prague, said the PLO hoped talks in Tunis next week would accelerate the restoration of peace in the region. Talks between the United States and the PLO are due to resume Wednesday after a three-month

hiatus.

Hungary Friday offered to host an international peace conference on the Middle East and play a mediating role in the conflict.

Police said at least 20 Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets fired from Syrian-occupied west Beirut exploded on beaches north of the capital near Lebanon's main Zouk Power Plant and the port of Jounieh, the Falangists' main sea outlet.

There were no reports of damage or casualties on the 12th day of the latest spasm of fighting between rival factions in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war. At least 49 people have been killed and 164 wounded since clashes erupted March 8.

Sniper fire crackled across the ruins of Beirut's old commercial district that straddles the city's government-controlled port and around the hilltop garrison town of Souk Al Gharb, 24

Seminar on development of Jordanian exports opens

ACC opens new markets for Jordan — Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — The creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) has opened new markets for Jordanian exports and paved the way for close cooperation with businessmen and economic and trade organisations in Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen to form a united and strong market, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Sunday.

ble — a process which is bound to adjust its balance of trade with other nations. For this to happen, there must not be a revision of government policies but rather a re-orientation of the trade sector in a manner that would serve the attainment of this goal and serve the national economy, the Regent added.

Prince Hassan referred to Jordanian investment seminars in the United States, Japan and Canada designed to boost Jordan's exports and said that the chamber's main task is to activate exports and develop it not only for products but also for services and expertise. "The Chamber of Industry will do all it can to develop exports in cooperation with various industrial concerns and the public sector," Abu Hassan said.

Later Abu Hassan presented Prince Hassan with a token gift to mark his birthday which falls on Monday.

In view of growing competition

with other exporters on the world market and the insistence by some countries on conducting barter trade with Jordan and obtaining payment facilities, the situation calls for Jordan to adopt an integrated export strategy and to involve the private and public sectors in more meaningful cooperation, Prince Hassan added.

What is required now is the formation of a unified private sector council to help create the convenient climate for production and exports and to organise exports on a sound basis.

Increased investments and exports represent the two major driving forces behind the development of the Kingdom, which enjoys a central geographical position and enjoys stability — both significant factors in any successful development process, the Regent pointed out.

In order for Jordan's industry to forge ahead successfully and enjoy credibility and confidence, there is a great need to adopt and apply standard specifications, Prince Hassan noted.

He said that as the country increases its exports it ought to reduce imports as much as possible.

only with Syria for a meaningful cease-fire, his spokesman said.

Despite the sporadic fighting, Falangists marked Palm Sunday in low-key church rituals bereft of the traditional colourful festivities. Most of the city's Muslims stayed indoors.

Both sides fear a repetition of last Tuesday's bloodbath in which 39 people were killed and 96 wounded in day-long shelling duel across the capital's dividing "green line."

That was the peak of the fighting between Army Commander Gen. Michel Aoun's mainly Falangist units and Syrian-backed militiamen of Druze leader Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

A shaky 48-hour truce called at midnight Thursday to allow mediators to work out a durable settlement has expired, with no sign of a breakthrough.

Aoun commands some 20,000 regulars. These could be supported in any all-out confrontation by the 6,000-strong Lebanese Forces, the Falangists' main militia who have been at odds with Aoun.

The Syrians, who have some 40,000 troops in Lebanon, can call on opposition militias who can muster an estimated 13,500 hardcore fighters.

"If Aoun really believes the Syrians might come around and

recognise him, he must be day-dreaming," said a Junblatt aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The aide said Aoun has been moving tank and artillery reinforcements to face Syrian army positions on the eastern and northeastern flanks of the Falangist hinterland since Thursday.

Aoun's spokesman refused to comment on that. But he charged that the Syrians have set up 16 new heavy artillery batteries around the towns of Bhamdoun and Tarshish in the mountains overlooking the Falangist enclave.

Reliable witnesses said Saturday that the Syrians also have set up mortars and multi-barrelled rocket launchers on top of high-rise apartment buildings in surrounding residential districts of west Beirut and its southern slums.

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British military fiasco brought Jalalabad fame

By Oliver Wates
Reuters

ISLAMABAD — Jalalabad, under siege by Afghan rebels in a major test of strength between the Western-backed rebels and the Soviet-backed government, first drew world attention nearly 150 years ago.

It was to Jalalabad that surgeon William Brydon spurred his flagging horse on Jan. 13, 1842, to bring news of one of the British empire's greatest military catastrophes.

Of 16,500 British and Indian troops who began a retreat from Kabul a week earlier towards the end of a British-Afghan war, he was the only Briton to reach Jalalabad unscathed. A few Britons were taken prisoner but the rest, and almost all the Indians, died.

The British garrison in Jalalabad then had to endure a three-month siege, and an earthquake on Feb. 19 that levelled most of the makeshift fortifications they

had erected. A relief column came over the Khyber Pass in April.

The current siege of Jalalabad is the first test of strength between the rebels and President Najibullah's government since the final Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan on Feb. 15. The prize is credibility.

The rebels need a major city in which to set up their provisional government. The Kabul administration needs to show it can survive without Soviet armed help.

"Psychologically and politically it is very important. If Jalalabad falls, the regime will have to reconsider its position and maybe leave Kabul," a rebel analyst in Pakistan said.

Jalalabad was once a pleasant place, with fine gardens and an almost Mediterranean climate. Citrus fruit, olives, rice and wheat still grow on the plain with the help of a big Soviet-financed irrigation system.

The former kings of Afghanistan built their winter palace

there. One of them, the reformist Amanullah Khan (1921-29), is buried in the city.

The Pakistani pacifist Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who died aged 96 in January 1988, asked to be buried there too. It was a symbolic end to his life-long struggle for the Pashtun people who live on both sides of the frontier.

Estimates of the city's current population by Afghan and foreign analysts range from 50,000 to half a million.

Twenty years ago Jalalabad did not feature among the half dozen principal cities of Afghanistan. Since then other cities such as Kandahar and Herat have shrunk as people fled the war.

Jalalabad has been relatively quiet, attracting refugees from country districts ravaged by the fighting. It is now generally considered to be Afghanistan's third biggest city, after Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif.

The results of the influx are slums of wooden huts and even tents. In early 1988, Jalalabad



looked scruffy to visiting correspondents, with muddy streets, broken pavements and beggars.

The shops of the city's active Sikh community were hung with pictures of Indian film stars and filled with cheap produce from many countries.

Like other Afghan cities, Jalalabad presented two faces.

Clean-shaven men in Western suits and bare-headed women in skirts rubbed shoulders with bearded tribesmen in turbans, their wives swathed in head-to-toe burqa veils.

Since the Soviet withdrawal began last May, thousands of people have moved to the city from Laghman and Kumar provinces to the north as government troops withdrew.

"It's our duty to prove to ourselves and to others that we are worthy of democracy and prepared to put it into practice.

Election campaign begins in Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — More than 480 candidates, from Communists

and capitalists to Islamic militants, began two weeks of campaigning Sunday for parliamentary elections seen as a test of a new openness in Tunisian politics.

Candidates from eight political organisations are contesting 141 seats in a Chamber of Deputies (parliament) which has been the exclusive preserve of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party since Tunisia's independence from France in 1956.

The April 2 elections are the first since President Zine Al Abidine Ibrahimi replaced ageing President Habib Bourguiba in November 1987 and the country sees them as a test of Ibrahimi's pledge to open up the political system.

"It's our duty to prove to ourselves and to others that we are worthy of democracy and prepared to put it into practice.

The campaign will be a test for us all," Ibrahimi said this week.

Opposition parties took part in the last two general elections in 1981 and 1986, but Tunisian officials admit they were rigged in favour of Bourguiba's Destourian Socialists.

Ibrahimi has revamped the party, changed its name to the Rassemblement Constitutionnel Démocratique (RCD) and ordered local authorities to ensure voting is fair and honest.

Of the 125 ruling party members in the old parliament, only 20 have survived an internal purge. RCD leaders said the grassroots of the party insisted the old ones should go.

Much of the interest in elections will lie in the performance of Islamic militants who in the last years of Bourguiba's rule bore the brunt of a crackdown on all his opponents.

Bourguiba excluded them from political life, driving many into violent opposition.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Syria, Algeria call for solidarity

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, visiting Algiers to discuss the Palestinian problem, agreed with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on the need for Arab solidarity. Syria Arab solidarity. Syria (SANA) said Sunday. The two leaders met after Assad, a强硬 opponent of Israel, arrived Saturday from Libya where he discussed the Middle East situation with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. SANA said Assad and Benjedid "stressed the necessity of achieving a firm Arab stand... to confront the aggressive schemes against the Arab nation." The official Syrian newspaper Tishreen said in an editorial that Assad would emphasise on his tour that the Palestinian issue should be the Arabs' top priority.

Bush praises Sununu

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush Saturday night joined in a dinner where U.S. Lebanese and Syrian charities honoured John Sununu, and praised his feisty chief of staff as "a class act." In a quick trip out of the White House and back, Bush dropped by the black-tie dinner where Sununu, who is of Lebanese descent was feted by a ballroom full of guests, including entertainer Danny Thomas, also of Lebanese antecedents. The dinner was hosted by a favourite charity of Thomas', the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the American-Lebanese-Syrian Associated Charities. In brief remarks, Bush told the group that he has "deep affection for Lebanon," and mentioned the country's longstanding political turmoil.

Jordan Computer Society

Exhibition Hall, at

King Abdullah Public Park

19 . 24/3/1989

عرض
للمطالبات
للطلاب
ناء
٥٠

نخب
بزيارة طلاب الجامعات
والدراسات



ستقام كل يوماً من الساعة ١٢.٣٠ صباحاً حتى ١٠.٣٠ مساءً

جمعية الحاسوب الأردنية

تدعوك لزيارة

قاعة المعارض في

مجمع حدائق الملك عبد الله

١٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢٤ - ١٩

جهاز حاسوب
كل يوم

جوائز معرض عمان للكمبيوتر

ACER PC 500 + مقدم من : شركه النظم الفنية

يَوْمِ الْخَمِيس ٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢٢

SHKHER AX 170 (2SYSTEMS) مقدم من : المركز الاردني للكمبيوتر "صقر"

يَوْمِ الْجُمُعَة ٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢٤

اعداد وتجهيز
مؤسسة نبيله التجارية ٦٨٧٧٦ فاكس ٦٨٧٧١

SYNCOMP 611TB PC مقدم من : المؤسسة الدولية للمؤازم وتجهيزات الكمبيوتر

يَوْمِ الْشَّدَّاد ٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢٠

SHARP 7000 A PC مقدم من : شركة نفيم صالح الفار وشريكه "شارب"

يَوْمِ الْأَرْبَعَاء ٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢١

HYUNDAI SUPER 16 PC مقدم من : الشركة الأردنية لذكاء الكمبيوتر

يَوْمِ الْأَرْبَعَاء ٩٨٩ / ٣ / ٢٢

JORDAN TELEVISION

19:07 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swieifich

Tel: 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel.

617285

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel.

637440.

De la Sale Church Tel. 661757

Terrassini Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel.

625151.

American Church Tel. 625383. Tel.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.

711331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.

775261.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church Tel.

685326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel:

811295.

Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair with expected rise in

temperature and northeasterly moderate wind. In Aqaba, wind will be

northerly moderate and seas calm.

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuhr

Dhuhr

'Asr

Maghreb

DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./max. temp.
Amman 7/20
Aqaba 13 / 27
Deserts 5 / 31
Jordan Valley 12 / 26

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 17. Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aqaba 37 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim 896294
Dr. Hisham Kanan 892285
Dr. Abdul Hodi Tarawneh 620115
Dr. Anwar Musa Al Haj 771020
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asmaa pharmacy 631055
Nairokhi pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 536730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

ZARQA:
Khalil Abu Hussein 985417

Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 08-52000

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann. 644281/6
Aklich Maternity, J. Ann. 643441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malha, J. Ann 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 661717/4
Stimciani Hospital 6619131
University Hospital 685485
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajrein 771107/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafi 775112/6
Army, Mar'a 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amman Hospital 674153
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09/983323
Zarqa National Hospital 09/981071
Ibn Sina Hospital 09/986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital 02/275555
Greek Catholic Hospital 02/272275
Ibn Al Nafees Hospital 02/271700
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital 03/314111

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 500 / 400
Banana 350 / 300
Banana (Mukammari) 300 / 250
Broad beans 100 / 100
Cabbage 120 / 90
Carrot 230 / 180
Cauliflower 140 / 100
Cucumber 400 / 320
Eggplant 220 / 160
Garlic 300 / 220
Grapefruit 360 / 320

Lemon 430 / 380
Lettuce (per one) 120 / 100
Marrow (large) 250 / 200
Marrow (small) 380 / 320

Orange (Shambout) 400 / 350

Orange (local) 350 / 300

Onion (dry) 250 / 200

Onion (green) 140 / 100

Peach 420 / 360

Pepper (hot) 620 / 580

Pepper (sweet) 250 / 200

Potato 400 / 320

Spinach

National News

Due to environmental changes, numerous developments:

Cancer cases in Jordan exceed official numbers

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The number of official cancer cases reported annually in Jordan lies between 2,000 and 3,000, but the unreported number may be much higher, according to Brigadier Dr. Hani Jumei'an of the Royal Medical Services.

"There are probably many patients who die of cancer before having their disease properly diagnosed and without knowing that they had cancer. This disease is increasing in the country because of the environmental changes and developments that have taken place since the 1970's," Jumei'an said at a press conference Sunday announcing the first cancer conference in the Kingdom.

The four-day-conference on cancer, to be opened Tuesday by Her Majesty Queen Noor, will be held on an international level with participants from Arab and European countries, the United States, in addition to Jordanian specialists, according to the head of the Jordan Cancer Society (JCS) and dean of the faculty of pharmacology at the University of Jordan, Dr. Walid Al Turk.

Turk explained that the conference will have papers that will cover all types of cancer: breast cancer, blood cancer (leukaemia), cancer of the lymph nodes, cancer of the digestive system and lung cancer.

"With specialists speaking from these countries, the preparatory committee of the conference hopes that the participants will sufficiently discuss and interact on the subject of early cancer detection," Turk, also the head of the preparatory committee, told a group of journalists.

Jumei'an agrees that the conference must concentrate on early diagnosis because he believes that there are certain types of cancer that can be cured if discovered at an early stage, such as leukaemia and cancer of the lymph nodes.

But how can one discover cancer at an early stage? Dr. Abdulla Al Abbadi, head of the blood diseases department at the University of Jordan Hospital, said that women should always check their breasts for any lumps and if they exist consult a doctor.

Jumei'an added that if a mother had had breast cancer, her daughters should regularly check their breasts with a doctor "because it may be inherited."

Abbadi noted that if a person has a constant dry cough accompanied by blood or she should also check for cancer. "If a person suffers from unexplained weight loss and loss of appetite that person should also see a doctor. Unusually large warts should also be checked. And any person under the age of 40 who suffers from diarrhoea and constipation alternately should go for a cancer check-up," Abbadi suggested.

He noted that one third of cancers result from smoking, and that a polluted environment and artificial food has increased the number of cancer cases.

Jumei'an stated that in the Arab World, patients who suffer from cancer are younger than those from the developed world for reasons not yet known.

Jumei'an said that there are services for cancer patients in Jordan at the government-run Al Bashir Hospital, King Hussein Medical Centre and the University of Jordan Hospital. But he added that this was not enough.

"We plan a media campaign before launching the early detection centres. We simply want to scare people from cancer so that they can make these tests and refrain from anything that may cause this disease," Turk said.

The society tries to raise the funds to reach as many people as possible to educate them on the causes of cancer and to help patients who need financial assistance, Turk noted. He added that the society has bought a bus and hired a driver to transport needy patients being treated at the cancer centre of Al Bashir Hospital.

There is also a social worker at the hospital to work with the patient and sometimes the family.

Jordan Cancer Society

JCS began its serious work two years ago to help fight cancer, according to Turk. He said that the major project in mind now is the opening of early detection cancer centres in different parts of Jordan. The first such centre is to be opened before the end of the year, and two other centres will open in the north and south of the Kingdom when the sufficient funding is acquired, Turk said.

In addition to the three centres, Turk noted that a mobile unit will also do the necessary tests to detect cancer at an early stage free of charge. In addition

Turk went on to say that the society has sent two social workers to train for six months at Johns Hopkins University in the United States to qualify them to counsel patients, their families and friends.

Turk concluded that the society needs as much help as possible from anyone and that membership is open to all. This conference is the first to be sponsored by the society.

القاء الاول للمتابعة الربعية لإقليم الشمال



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday attends the final session of the north development seminar. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi chaired the seminar's discussions (Petra photo)

Prince Hassan attends last session

North development seminar endorses major work plans

RAMTHA (Petra) — A one-day seminar held here Saturday to assess the development process in the northern regions of Jordan issued a statement Sunday endorsing an executive programme worked out at the meetings by six sectoral committees.

A statement at the conclusion of the sessions, which were held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said that the seminar approved of measures taken by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment to improve the municipal councils' status and administrative and financial situation.

These measures include among other things raising the performance of employees, improving a system for collecting dues and fees and better control of fiscal budgets and expenditure.

It said the ministry, in a bid to back up the council's operations, is currently preparing for a special symposium on ideal management and will hold general meetings to assess development corporations' programmes in Salt, Irbid, Zarqa and Karak.

In Industry and energy, the statement said that the Ministry of Industry and Trade is currently conducting an industrial survey covering the whole country. These measures include among other things raising the performance of employees, improving a system for collecting dues and fees and better control of fiscal budgets and expenditure.

In Industry and energy, the statement said that the Ministry of Industry and Trade is currently conducting an industrial survey covering the whole country.

In Social development, the statement referred to a Ministry of Education project for providing advanced training to teachers and noted that the ministry has built new schools and is giving priority for appointment in the northern districts to teachers



from the local areas. The ministry has provided 36 housing units for teachers employed in remote areas away from their hometowns and is working on a scholarship programme for teachers in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education.

According to the programme, universities and community colleges in the north will carry out expansion schemes and help post graduates to obtain higher degrees.

The programme provides for the Ministry of Health to set up health centres to replace rented buildings and to commence work on the construction of the King Abdullah Hospital at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) at a cost of JD 24 million.

The programme provides for greater measures of cooperation between the Ministry of Social Development and the General Union of Voluntary Societies in voluntary and charitable work. It also provides for more care and rehabilitation programmes for the handicapped, and for the development of women's role.

In agriculture the programme provided for the implementation of a social survey project, classification of agricultural land with financing from the European

Community. The programme entails studies to build Wadi Shoumar Dam and the development of underground water to promote irrigation and pledges from the Ministry of Agriculture to encourage agricultural processing industries to unify sources of agricultural credit, to reschedule farmers' debts and to create an agricultural insurance fund.

In tourism the programme entails the implementation of a comprehensive study to set up amusement parks, a tourist-class hotel, and a conference auditorium in cooperation with JUST and the Ministry of Planning.

It also entails cooperation between Yarmouk University and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the Ministry of Tourism to pursue the project of promoting and marketing traditional crafts and the restoration of Ajloun Castle.

Prince Hassan who attended part of the meeting Saturday urged all concerned parties in the private and public sectors to step up efforts in implementation of development plans. Several working papers were discussed at the meeting which was chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi.

Jordan, Syria sign sports agreement

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat had a meeting here Sunday with Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zou'bi to review bilateral cooperation in sports fields.

At the meeting, which was attended by president of the Syrian sports federation Samih Mudallal, the two sides discussed means for further boosting cooperation in youth and sports activities as provided for in an agreement signed in Damascus Saturday.

Khleifat expressed hope that the agreement will pave the way

for fruitful cooperation for the benefit of the two countries.

The agreement signed by Khleifat and Mudallal provides for an exchange of visits by sports teams and coaches, and holding joint training sports camps and organising sports games. The agreement also calls for the organisation of sports weeks in the two countries on an annual basis, and for cooperation in sports for the handicapped.

The seminar recommended that the government help create a development council for the northern districts of Jordan and introduce amendments to the

Intifada toll hits 400

Continued from page 1

In the West Bank, five Palestinians were reported shot and wounded as soldiers opened fire on protesters in the towns of Jenin and Qabatiya. One victim was a 10-year-old boy whose neck was grazed by a bullet, doctors said.

In the West Bank city of Nab-

lus, Arab youths broke into an Israeli military government office and set ablaze files and furniture, Arab reports said.

The widespread protests came a day after troops shot and killed three Palestinians, all from the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood in Gaza City, and wounded at least 20.

East Beirut shelled

Continued from page 1

peace in Lebanon until the Syrians withdraw their troops.

Aoun's headquarters Sunday

demanded the formation of a

military committee of Lebanese

and Syrian army officers to draw

up a timetable for a Syrian withdrawal.

The collision between Aoun and Syria followed a March 6 air-and-sea blockade Aoun clamped on militia-controlled harbours

Nancy Uscher: high hopes for music in Jordan

By John West
Special to the Jordan Times

ONE day in 1984, Nancy Uscher, an American viola soloist, went to the New York headquarters of the U.N. to find a book.

When she didn't find it, she decided to write it — the result led her to Amman and the National Music Conservatory last week, where she gave a series of concerts, lectures, teach-ins, and also found herself learning the rudiments of Arabic music, in what she described as a "unique experience."

The book she was looking for was a guide to the world's musical institutes. As a soloist, she was not satisfied with simply playing in anonymous concert halls in whirlwind tours. "I have always had the philosophy that it nice to put something back in. But I went to the U.N. armed with a notebook expecting to stay there all day. Instead I found that when the book finally arrived, it was this thick," she said, squeezing her thumb and index finger together. Thousands of questionnaires, phone calls and interviews later, the book — "Schnier's Guide to Schools of Music and Conservatories Throughout the World" — was published last year. In the course of her research, Uscher had become a pioneer in musical education, and it was as such that Kifa Fakhouri, head of the National Music Conservatory, invited her to Amman, on the tail of a two week extravaganza performance of "Show-

boat" by Jerome Kern in the new Cairo Opera House.

She was clearly impressed by what she found here. "The place is growing so fast" she said of the infant institute, "and everyone is so open, so responsive. I wish I could stay longer."

Man with a vision

Uscher is healthily sceptical of her role as a travelling expert, and willingly details its limitations. "In a certain way, it's a fantasy. It's only the day to day grind of performance and practise which makes you better, but I have the easy job of coming in here and exchanging ideas and making suggestions." Nevertheless, she feels the potential is great, and described Fakhouri as "a man with a vision." No matter what the circumstances or the difficulties, she maintains, you always find people are essentially either positive or negative.

"Of course, it's easy for me, an outsider, to be an optimist and say 'let's get some sponsorship and buy four decent violins for \$20,000 so that the conservatory can lend them out to promising young musicians.' But the important thing is, that's how people here are thinking too." She cited the use of the Rolland technique, where children are taught musical instruments through play, as an example of progressive technique.

Uscher, whose research has given her wide experience of the growth of musical institutions throughout the world, was full of

traditions under the same roof. The conservatory would be able to harness all the musical talent in Jordan.

I love it

What did she personally make of Arabic music, hearing it extensively for the first time as someone steeped in the melodies of Handel and the harmonies of Bach? "I love it," was her simple reply. And although she agreed that the two traditions appealed to radically different senses of rhythm and melody — "all those intriguing quartettes" — she didn't believe in the old schematisation of music into West and East as bipolar opposites.

"Take the tunes of the Greek or Armenian styles, especially in church, or a Gregorian chant — Westerners don't consider any of these alien, and yet can hear the same little runs, the same plaintive melodies as you do in Arabic music." Her first impressions were vividly reinforced by a rehearsal this week, when she and the band were playing Telemann.

"During the interval, one of the violinists in the army band took the piece and wove it into an Arabic tune. It was absolutely fascinating — there you had eighteenth century German and twentieth century Arab merged perfectly."

"She also took to learning Arabic music during the breaks in the rehearsals from their Western repertoire.

Despite her general optimism, Uscher outdid herself when describing the Army band, with

whom she was working for last Thursday's concert. "They are so keen to learn, and establish a repertoire." She predicted that liaison between the Army band and the conservatory would increase in the next few years.

While valuing short visits by "experts" such as herself — "people to fire in fresh ideas and energy" — Uscher was determined for her part to make something more permanent of her chance acquaintance with Jordan.

She has plans to look into possibilities of finding money in the States to fund an instrument buying programme for the conservatory, and student exchanges. Despite seeing her own contribution as necessarily limited, she felt that what had happened in Cairo could provide a useful precedent for Jordanian music in its fund-raising efforts.

The Cairo Opera experience

The two week production of Jerome Kern's "Showboat" in the Cairo Opera House cost \$1.25 million. The money was raised by the U.S. embassy in Cairo wheeling it out of the American business community, who were induced into seeing it at high profile promotion. But in their efforts, American diplomats in Cairo had been greatly helped by prominent Egyptian communities in the United States, who had applied the constant lobbying needed to raise those kinds of sums.

The Cairo production was a glitzy one-off, but sponsorship from there.

could be channelled into more long-term projects that still fulfilled the sponsors' need for a return on their investment. Promotion money given to building the musical infrastructure, for example, could ensure the donors seats and VIP treatment at concerts, and free performances at private functions from musicians trained by their donations. There are many companies who are ready, or who could be persuaded, that showing themselves to be "good corporate citizens" of the host country in which they are successfully operating is in their own interests. All they need is a worthwhile and respected channel. The conservatory and musical education in Jordan could provide such a channel.

While not doubting that there will be problems — "it's two steps forward, one step back" — Uscher said she was impressed by what had already been achieved, since the conservatory was only founded in 1986. She was also convinced that a few enthusiasts, particularly amateurs, can go a very long way in creating and nurturing a music-loving public, especially in the long run to set up and maintain teaching facilities.

If you have an idea like this and a belief in it and you push it, everybody benefits. Why not go and play in Jerash and Irbid and Aqaba? It may take a bit of time for people to get the hang of it, but once they do it's all downhill from there."

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Egyptian artist 'Adi Rizqullah at Al Wasiti Gallery.

* An art exhibition by seven Jordanian artists at the Art Gallery of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m.

* An art exhibition by Ahmad Ismaiel displaying paintings on Maqamat Al Hariri and Jordanian landscapes at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental — 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

* An exhibition of posters on the French Revolution at the French Cultural Centre.

* An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Jaloot at Alia Art Gallery.

* An Iraqi children's books and paintings exhibition at Salt Secondary School for Girls.

* An art exhibition by Moroccan artist Al Hashemi Izza at the Gallery, Jatah Lawiebeh.

* A graphic art exhibition displaying works by German artists Liebermann, Slevogt and Corinth at the Yarmouk University.

* The Amman computer exhibition at the King Abdullah Complex — 10:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

LECTURE

* A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Fantasy and Fairy Tales in the Ancient and Modern Arabic Literature" by Dr. Wiebke Walther at Mu'ta University — 3:00 p.m.

FILM

* A French film entitled "Les Maries de L'an II" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Pressing issues

THE fifth conference of the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC) currently convened in Amman has many pressing issues on its agenda. To begin with, cooperation between Islamic cities and capitals would go a long way to accelerate and consolidate cooperation and coordination between the Islamic countries. It is a well known fact that Islamic metropolises are heavily populated. It goes without saying, therefore, that the greater the degree of cooperation between urban centres in the Islamic World, the greater would be the extent of cooperation among Muslim peoples worldwide.

Furthermore, urban areas in the Muslim world unfortunately suffer from many social and economic ills and disorders rendering them an unfair showcase for the kind of social and economic justice that Islam calls for. It would augur well for the cause of Islam if cities in the Muslim world would become more exemplary of the teachings and tenets of Islam and a more suitable showcase for the rest of the religious and civilisation to see and emulate. It is obvious that the existing situation in many Islamic cities reflects badly on our Islamic religion. More concerted effort must therefore be exerted to rectify these negative situations in order to make them the envy of the cities and capitals of the world.

It is unfortunate that cooperation between Islamic capitals and cities is not extended to rural areas as well. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has graciously noted in his address to the opening session of the OICC Saturday that rural regions in the Islamic World still lacked development and investment opportunities. Prince Hassan went on to say that "a well balanced society is one that can succeed in making a fair distribution of population, offering the rural regions' chance for development and easing the burdens from the cities."

Clearly one cannot address the problems of cities without concurrently addressing the issues related to rural regions. The two issues are but the two sides of the one indivisible coin.

As the host to the on-going OICC conference, Jordan hopes and prays that the fifth OICC session would register marked successes, first in alleviating the plight and hardship that Muslims suffer from in some of these cities, and second in furthering cooperation between those cities for the benefit of all Muslims.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

In its editorial Sunday Al Ra'i daily newspaper commented on Israel's escalation of its atrocities against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, only four days before the resumption of the U.S.-PLO dialogue in Tunis. This escalation suggests that Israel wants the United States to demand that the uprising be stopped and focus Washington's attention on the current events rather than the idea of an international conference which the PLO seeks to convene, said the paper. There is no doubt that the PLO will make it clear that nothing can stop the revolt against the occupation except a lasting peace that can come through the proposed conference because resistance is a legitimate right of the oppressed people, the paper noted. There can be no compromise over the uprising of an oppressed people seeking freedom and a liberation of usurped land, the paper stressed. Any call by Washington on the PLO to halt the uprising would be interpreted as an attempt to belittle the importance of the Palestinian revolt and to encourage the Israelis to pursue their aggressive policies, the paper added. It said that America's credibility will in the coming few days be facing a real test; and it is indeed wiser for the United States to tackle the source of the evil and help end Israel's occupation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Sunday refers to a final statement by the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Riyadh last week which urged Iran to release the Iraqi war prisoners. The whole international community is called on to interfere and exercise pressure on Tehran to respond to calls of peace and to reason, so that justice can be established, said Mahmoud Rimawi. The writer says that an exchange of war prisoners should take place now since the on-going negotiations between Baghdad and Tehran under United Nations auspices is expected to last for a very long time. For its part Baghdad has responded to all bids to achieve peace and expressed willingness to release the war prisoners immediately if such action is reciprocated by the Iranian leaders, the writer continues. He says that Tehran's intransigent position vis-a-vis the prisoners issue demonstrates its indifference to the sufferings of the Iranian families whose sons are held prisoners of war and proves that Tehran is not willing yet to reach a settlement with its Arab neighbour. Iran's decision to hold on to the prisoners of war and the latest border skirmishes provides sufficient signs of Iran's evil intentions, which in turn calls for quick international action and more pressure from the Islamic community on the Iranian regime, the writer concludes.

Al Dustour daily newspaper referred to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent's address to the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities in which he saluted the uprising of the Palestinian people, and reaffirmed Jordan's absolute support for the Palestinian revolt. Prince Hassan has reminded the Islamic nation through his address that the Holy City of Jerusalem is still under the yoke of occupation rule and that the sacred shrines remain hostage awaiting liberation, the paper said. The Palestinian uprising, the paper added, should remind Muslims around the world of their sacred duty towards their brothers and sisters suffering from occupation and Israeli atrocities and offering sacrifices to defend their homeland and the holy shrines.

Sawt Al Shaab daily newspaper referred to Prince Hassan's speech also pointing out his call on the Muslim community to take steps for defending its culture in the face of economic, technological and cultural challenges. The paper also referred to Prince Hassan's reminder that despite its vast wealth the Islamic community continues to suffer from poverty, hunger and illiteracy and called for serious and collective efforts to deal with these problems.

Algerians vote for a fresh start

IT IS not only in the Communist world that winds of political change are now blowing strongly. In Africa too, there are increasing signs of what might be described as glasnost and perestroika.

Among the latest examples of changes in political and economic directions is the Algerian referendum whose result spells the end of 27 years of one-party, Socialist rule. What happens in this Arab Maghreb country has an added significance because of the prestige it has long enjoyed in the Third World of the developing countries.

Certainly, such a move by a leading member-state will undoubtedly have made an impression among other Organisation of African Unity (OAU) countries. Backed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, at least 30 of the grouping's 50 members have embarked on "structural adjustment" programmes.

"An important element in these economic reforms is the emphasis placed on giving private

enterprise a greater role, given the generally dismal performances of these countries' state sectors.

In the Algerian referendum, nearly 75 per cent of the voters approved a new draft constitution which scraps the commitment to Socialism and is expected to pave the way to a multi-party system. The constitutional changes mark the second stage in President Chadli Benjedid's reform programme.

Algeria is embarking on a radical realignment of its political process and institutions. The executive, legislature and the judiciary are to be separate and the armed services restricted to a purely military role.

It is the end of an era of the Front de Liberation Nationale (FLN), which has dominated Algerian politics since the country became independent in 1962. But the Front, which led the bitter struggle against the former colonial power, France, will no longer enjoy the privilege of being the sole party.

The new constitution will also

enable a trade union movement to be formed, as well as giving workers in state-run enterprises the right to strike. Hitherto only those in the private sector were allowed to withdraw their labour.

Most observers agree that Algeria's fresh start represents a sharp break from its past. A constitution in the Soviet mould is being replaced by one which is more akin to those of Western Europe.

All reference to Socialism are dropped, thus sounding the death knell of a centrally planned economy. And although Arabic is retained as the national language, gone, too, is the pledge of Arabisation, whose forced pace has proved damaging.

Individual rights and freedoms are more precisely and liberally defined, with the right to form "associations of a political nature" guaranteed. Detention without trial will be limited to 48 hours.

From now on presidential elections will be held every five years instead of six, while the National Assembly is to be given impor-

tant new powers. These include being able to introduce censure motions, and if any of these are passed by a two-thirds majority, the head of government will have to resign.

Deputies can also ask oral as well as written questions, and the former must be answered immediately. And if the assembly is dissatisfied with a governmental reply, a debate can be held on the subject.

The need for a reform programme was driven home during a week of rioting last October in which hundreds lost their lives. These demonstrations were seen as protests both against austerity measures introduced in the wake of the fall in oil prices and the degree of corruption within the ruling party.

Like other current reformers elsewhere, President Benjedid faces opposition from those with a vested interest in maintaining the status quo. These include the party and military elite and members of the professional and managerial classes — Lion features.

OPEN FORUM

An appeal to mothers of conscience about the expulsion of Palestinians

I AM a Palestinian mother in mourning. My two only sons are in jail prison waiting for Israel to carry out their "execution" — for Palestinians to be expelled from their homeland, and separated by force from their families is a sentence of death, a pain as deep as the loss of someone dear forever.

I am a woman in my 60s. I know that I may not live to ever see my sons again, in this house, where they have lived all their lives, the house that they themselves helped to build with their own hands and hard work. I grieve not only for myself but for the young families they will leave behind, their devoted and long-suffering wives and their small children who, I fear, will no longer know the loving arms of a father. We know that their lives in exile will be miserable, as ours will be without them.

But I am very proud of both my sons. They are strong in spirit and dedicated, above all else, to peace and freedom for their people and country. What crime is this, to fight against the chains that bind your people? To fight without weapons, not to cause harm to others, but to end the occupation they have lived under all their lives.

They can take my sons away from me, away from their wives and children, away from their country and people, but will this bring peace closer? When their bulldozers uproot our olive trees, and dynamite blows up our houses, does this bring peace closer? If every mother loses her sons and daughters, will this bring peace closer? If they empty the land of all Palestinians, will this bring peace closer?

I am a Palestinian mother in mourning for my sons. But even this bitterest of sacrifices I will undergo with my head high, for their sake and the sake of all those who will be deported. I feel my people's tragedy through the uprooting of my sons, and I know that adding to the suffering we have all undergone over the years of occupation does not make us want freedom any less.

I appeal to the mothers of this world, mothers who understand oppression and who also understand the love of children and of homeland, to raise your voices with mine against the unjust and inhumane expulsion of Palestinians, my two sons and all the other sons of mothers like me.

Um Mohammed
Mother of Mohammed and Majed
Labadi
Abu Dis, West Bank

Fear of bombs in U.S.

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Anti-terrorist experts fear America's days as a haven from terrorism could be numbered following the bombing of a U.S. navy captain's vehicle.

So far, nearly all guerrilla attacks on U.S. targets have taken place outside the United States.

But experts believe that may be changing and fear a new kind of violence — attacks on American soil by inexperienced guerrillas inspired by anti-U.S. regimes.

On March 10, in San Diego, a pipe bomb ripped through a van driven by the wife of Captain Will Rogers, commander of the cruiser Vincennes. The "warship" inadvertently shot down an Iranian airliner in the Gulf last July, killing 290 civilians.

Sharon Rogers escaped from the vehicle unharmed, but analysts found the episode unsettling. "This could well be a departure," said Bruce Hoffman of the private Rand Corporation think tank.

Iranian Revolutionary Guards had vowed revenge for the airbase tragedy, and U.S. officials told Reuters they initially suspected the bombing was ordered by Iran.

While that possibility has not been ruled out, one official said, investigators now think the bombing was more likely the work of inexperienced terrorists acting on their own to avenge the Vincennes episode.

"It was a beginner's effort... but you run the risk of a copy-cat response." Noel Koch, until recently one of the Defence Department's top anti-terrorist experts, said in an interview.

Neil Livingstone, an adviser to major U.S. corporations, said it was likely that Iran's call for the death of "The Satanic Verses" author Salman Rushdie raised the ire of Islamic fundamentalists in

the United States.

"The Salman Rushdie thing... got them hopping up to carry out violent act," he said.

Koch, like official investigators, thinks the van bombing could have been the work of Iranians living in America but loyal to Iran's virulently anti-U.S. leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Assistant FBI director Oliver Revell told Congress recently that at least 200 "hard core" Khomeini supporters in America were under surveillance but that as many as 15,000 other sympathisers were in the United States, living among up to 60,000 Iranian expatriates.

Koch said he feared Washington could become a target for similar attacks.

Security is tight at the White House, Capitol building and other key places but lax elsewhere in the nation's capital, anti-terrorist experts say, adding that too many Americans naively assume they are safe from terrorism.

Officials fear indigenous units of Iran's Revolutionary Guards are geared for action in the United States and Robert Kupperman, a former White House terrorism adviser, told Reuters it was very likely such a unit had planted the San Diego bomb.

"We'd better brace ourselves for a whole bunch of terrorist attacks," he said.

Officials said they doubted the San Diego attack was a professional job ordered by Iran because a relatively primitive pipe bomb was used and Mrs. Rogers survived.

But counter-terror experts are not encouraged by the evident lack of sophistication.

"He managed to put it in (the van) and got it to detonate... whatever works is effective," said Koch.



Turkey and the EC-NATO 'linkage'

By Sajid Rizvi

LONDON — The uproar over the novel *The Satanic Verses* has almost certainly dashed hopes of an early admission of Turkey to the European Community, according to informed opinion in the European, Turkish and Muslim quarters usually concerned with the issue.

While the storm over Salman Rushdie's book continues to brew and widen what Europeans at least perceive as the great divide between "them" and "us," the chances of Turkey, the only predominantly Muslim country in the western alliance, also becoming a European Community member in the near future have suffered through no fault of Ankara, according to the sources.

In recent years Turkey has successfully danced on the fence while 1. Trying to bring Iraq and Iran together on prisoner exchange and other issues prior to the ceasefire; 2. Getting the Islamic world to pay heed to the Turkish Cypriot case in divided Cyprus; and 3. As a conduit between the western alliance and Muslim nations on a host of issues from Africa to the Middle East to Asia. Its diplomatic effort has had commercial rewards and the prestige earned as a result of the brinkmanship hasn't been unwelcomed either.

But *The Satanic Verses* confronted Ankara with a monumental dilemma. While the country's Muslim clergy came out strongly against Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's fatwa of death on the British writer, Ankara felt unable to take a stand. Under the republican constitution that enshrines Turkish secularism, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal found himself in a position where, according to one observer, he was "damned if he did and damned if he didn't" take a tough line on the novel's blasphemous content.

In the event the Religious Affairs Department chief, Prof. Mustafa Said Yazicioglu, denounced *The Satanic Verses*, emphasising at the same time that the book was unavailable in Turkey and therefore he could not read it and that he based his condemnation on the evidence of millions of Muslims who had been offended by it.

But Turkish officials have been anxious to draw a line between condemning the book and following Khomeini's line on it. "There is no use for such a book to be published in Turkey, a book that makes fun of the sincere religious values to which millions of human beings adhere," said Yazicioglu. "It defames the highest personality of our Prophet Mohammad for whom no serious man of science, eastern or western, has said anything negative through-

out history, and his respective wives and valued friends." He said the book also sought to "create doubt and sensation about our holy Koran".

At the time when the Turkish official made the remarks, most European governments still held fast to their support of Rushdie and British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe had not yet come out with his own denunciation of Rushdie as anti-British. Neither had the Vatican's remarks, upholding the Muslim view of *The Satanic Verses* as blasphemous, been made public.

So the past few weeks have vindicated the Turkish position in a European perspective, to the great relief of many in Ankara. The events have not, however, bridged the gulf which the Turkish sources believe has been created quite unexpectedly between Turkey, a Muslim nation, and the rest of Europe.

These fears may still prove unfounded, others in Turkey stress, and all may be forgotten as the controversy over the novel recedes into the background. But this view is contested by others. "So long as Iran and Europe are poles apart, *The Satanic Verses* will echo in our midst," said one

fellow Minister Ercan Vuralhan to do with. In a recent interview with Ilhan Cevik, editor of the *Turkish Daily News* in Ankara, he ruled out Turkey's abandonment of the alliance in the event of the European Community rejecting or holding back full membership.

He did stress, however, that if by the mid-1990s Turkey proved that it could become a member of the Community but its full membership was blocked by "prejudices and emotional actions" Ankara would revise its position in NATO. Turkey is an "indefinite part of NATO in Europe," he told Cevik. "There can be no defence concept that includes Europe but leaves out Turkey."

Vuralhan insisted that Turkey's full membership in the European Community "is now a matter of time." Turkey, he said, may encounter some technical problems on its way to full membership.

Before the EC membership becomes a serious issue, Turkey may have to cope with the prospect of taking adequate cover while its eastern neighbour, Iran, and its western courtyard of Europe trade fire, literally and figuratively, quite nearly over its head — Academic File.

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Inflation heats up in Europe again

LONDON (AP) — Inflation has been heating up in Europe for the first time in years, and the means to cool it has been higher interest rates.

But few economists believe Europe will return to double-digit inflation, or that the higher interest rates will threaten the European economies' comeback of the late 1980s.

The pickup in prices, which coincides with a resurgence in U.S. inflation, is being blamed on faster-than-expected economic growth, which caught European governments by surprise. Central banks across Europe slackened their grip too much after the October 1987 stock market crash, economists said.

Both consumer buying and investment spending have been strong in Europe. As a result, factories have been working at or near capacity.

Economists also blame the upward trend in the dollar and the weakness of European currencies — particularly Deutschemark — last year, as well as higher commodity prices, especially for oil.

Higher prices are being exacerbated by the higher wage claims, threatening to cause wage-price

spirals in some countries.

Since the second half of 1988, European countries have tried to stop inflation by raising interest rates to discourage spending and borrowing, but there is no clear indication it is working yet.

Signs are that consumers are continuing to spend. In Britain, for example, retail sales spurred 2.5 per cent in February.

This renewed inflation is a big disappointment for Europe following the great successes the once-lumbering and mature economies have had by making their industries more modern and efficient.

There are inflationary pressures within most of the economies in Europe. I think the inflation fear is fairly widespread," said Nigel Rendell, an economist at the London investment firm James Capel and Co.

European inflation will peak at five per cent this year, its highest level since 1985, up from with 3.5 per cent last year, he predicted. It should fall back to four per cent next year, as U.S. economic

growth slows and the dollar weakens, he said.

Britain and Italy are expected to fare the worst, with an average annual rate of up to seven per cent in 1989, economists say.

The continental economies are not as overheated as those of the United States and Britain, said Anthony Thomas, an economist with the London investment firm Kleinwort Grieseson Ltd. As a result, inflation is "a much easier problem for them to contend with," he said.

Indeed, Rendell said: "It's important to stress that although we're going to get back to inflation, we're not going to get back

to the teen-age (double-digit) inflation we saw in the 1970s or the double-digit inflation we saw earlier in the 1980s."

Many economists think interest rates will have to go even higher, particularly after the U.S. government last Friday reported that wholesale prices surged one per cent in February, prompting the stock markets to plunge. The rates might go up within the month, they said.

But David Bowers, an economist at Barclays De Zoete Wedd Ltd., said he is not convinced that higher interest rates will work in Spain, for example, because Spanish consumers aren't heavily

indebted and because a large amount of investment is foreign and funded from the outside.

These high rates, besides squeezing mortgage holders and other borrowers, are boosting currencies, and that is exacerbating trade imbalances in Britain and Italy.

However, economists are not concerned that the higher interest rates will lead to a recession.

"In Europe, there is a lot of (economic) momentum," Rendell said. "We see (economic) growth at relatively high levels. It will be less than last year, but it still will be pretty strong."

Rendell expects economic

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

S. Yemen to refine more Iraqi oil

ADEN (R) — Iraq and South Yemen have agreed to increase the amount of Iraqi oil refined in Aden from the current 15,000 barrels per day, the Aden News Agency has said. The agreement was signed by Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi and Minerals and Energy Minister Saleh Abu Baker ibn Hussaini. The news agency told Reuters the ministers also agreed on an exchange of visits by oil experts and on training for South Yemeni students in Baghdad.

Yugoslavia hikes petroleum prices

BELGRADE (AP) — The Yugoslav government hiked the prices of gasoline and diesel fuel for the third time this year, the state Tanjug news agency has reported. The prices went up by an average of 18.7 per cent. The last price hike was in February, when oil prices were increased by 34.43 per cent. A litre of high-octane gasoline now costs 3,720 dinars — 48 cents or about \$1.82 per gallon. The average monthly salary in Yugoslavia amounts to the equivalent of \$120. Tanjug said higher production costs for oil derivatives and a drop in the value of the dinar in comparison with foreign currencies made the price increase necessary.

British jobless rate falls to 6.8%

LONDON (AP) — Unemployment in Britain fell 0.2 percentage point to a seasonally adjusted 6.8 per cent of the work force in February, its lowest level in more than eight years, the government has said. The unemployment rate stood at seven per cent in January and at 8.7 per cent in February 1988, according to the Department of Employment. The latest unemployment rate was the lowest since December 1980, it said. The seasonally adjusted number of unemployed was 1.95 million in February, a revised 1.99 million in January, and 2.485 million in February 1988.

Turkey to lend USSR \$500 million

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey will lend the Soviet Union half a billion dollars to encourage Soviet importers to buy Turkish goods such as shoes and textiles and to finance construction projects by Turkish companies. Officials of Turkey's Export Credit Bank (Eximbank) said the \$300 million export finance credit will help correct the trade imbalance currently in Moscow's favour. It is the first deal of its kind between the two neighbours and follows a steady warming of relations between Moscow and NATO-member Turkey in recent years.

Portugal unveils anti-inflation pact

LISBON (AP) — Finance Minister Miguel Cadihle has unveiled a package of measures aimed at cutting Portugal's rising inflation. Speaking at a Lisbon news conference, Cadihle said a readjustment of economic policy was needed to reduce consumption, rising prices and imports and maintain a secure environment for growth, investment and deployment. Cadihle admitted the government faced a difficult task meeting its six per cent inflation target by the end of the year. Inflation figures showed a yearly increase of 12.3 per cent from February 1988. Among the 11 points in the anti-inflation package were severe restrictions on consumer credit, particularly in the booming automobile sector. Credit and joint purchase companies will also face new restrictions aimed at cutting consumption. In a bid to reduce interbank liquidity, banks will be obliged to place 17 per cent of their deposits with the Bank of Portugal. New issues of treasury bonds will attempt to attract savers and absorb liquidity, Cadihle disclosed. He added that increased Bank of Portugal foreign exchange reserves would allow Portugal to pay some \$670 million of its \$18 billion external debt ahead of schedule.

Incomes reported down in L. America

WASHINGTON (AP) — Average incomes dropped again in Latin America last year by about one per cent, the Inter American Development Bank (IADB) has reported.

"The gap in per capita income between Latin America and the industrialised countries has grown by about one-third in the 1980s," the bank said in its

annual report.

Some countries did comparatively well. Chile, where the World Bank put the average income as \$1,310 in 1987, and Ecuador, where the average had dropped to \$1,040, both reported growth of six per cent in 1988.

That left them still far behind Denmark, for example, where the average citizen earned

\$15,010 in 1987, or Italy, where the average was \$10,420.

The worst drops — more than three per cent — were in Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago.

Growth was slow or nonexistent in the countries with the biggest economies and the biggest debts: Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. In Brazil, Mexico and Peru — where three out of every five Latin Americans live — average incomes were down.

"The debt overhang continues to sap the economic strength of the region, undermining its ability to import more and invest more," the report said.

Latin American countries have debts abroad of more than \$400 billion.

Lower Latin American imports make for less business and fewer jobs in the United States and other industrial countries. Lower investments means a lower standard of living for the next generation of Latin Americans.

Meanwhile, the United States caused an unexpected delay Saturday in talks to fund the IADB by demanding that the 44-nation institution be more restrictive in its lending practice, sources said.

The dispute could prevent ultimate agreement over a reported \$22.5 billion package for the Washington-based bank, said several delegates and officials of the development bank.

The IADB's 30th annual con-

ference formally opens Monday.

But delegates from the bank, which funds development projects in South and Central America as well as the Caribbean, began debating final details of the package last Thursday.

Dutch Finance Minister Onno Ruding said an agreement is likely by Wednesday over the two most controversial parts of the four-year funding programme: the amount of the replenishment fund itself and the voting procedure that leads to approval for a specific loan.

Sources in Washington said earlier that the United States, IADB's main contributor, had agreed to a \$22.5 billion reple-

nishment.

Ruding, who takes over as chairman of the bank's board of governors Monday, did not disclose the size of the funding package and only said the voting process would be changed so that a minority can postpone (approval of a loan).

But South American sources at the gathering told the Associated Press that the United States had fielded a new proposal early Saturday that took most delegates by surprise.

One source, who asked not to be identified, said the U.S. proposal aimed at steering the development bank's policies for approving loans closer to those of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which are much stricter.

U.S. banking industry posts record profits despite unprecedented failures

WASHINGTON (AP) — Profits of U.S. banks soared to an all-time high of \$25.2 billion last year, even as more commercial banks failed than in any year since the depression of the 1930s, the government has reported.

L. William Seidman, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., said bank profits for the three months ending Dec. 31 hit a record \$6.5 billion, \$600 million higher than the previous record of \$5.9 billion set in the third

quarter of 1988.

In previewing the report in a speech, Seidman had said profits were \$6.7 billion in the fourth quarter and \$25.3 billion for all of 1988. However, that number did not include a single large bank that reported losses of \$205 million for the quarter and \$125 million for the year.

The \$25.2 billion for all of 1988, up from \$2.8 billion in 1987, tops the previous high of \$18.1 billion set in 1985.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, March 19, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	84.6	85.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	507.9	517.9	41.1	41.1	41.1
Dutch guilder	254.1	256.1			
Swedish krona	84.0	84.7			
Italian lira (for 100)	39.1	39.4			
Swiss franc	332.6	335.2	Belgian franc (for 10)	136.9	138.0

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Ito takes gold in total triumph

PARIS (AP) — Japan's Midori Ito performed the first triple axel by a woman in a major international competition, broke two records and took the heart out of her rivals as she captured the women's title at the world figure skating championships Saturday.

The tiny 19-year-old put on a dazzling display of jumping as she became Japan's first-ever figure skating champion, skating a flawless routine that earned her five perfect marks of 6.0 for technical merit.

It was no contest.

"I had no pressure on me," Ito said after winning a showdown with West Germany's Claudia Leistner and Jill Trenary, the American champion, both of whom made crucial mistakes. "I think I skated 100 per cent."

Trenary, in the lead going into Saturday's free skating, which counted for 50 per cent of the total mark, made a tearful exit from the championships, breaking down twice at a news conference afterwards.

Ito, whose technical brilliance for years had been overshadowed by the all-round skills of the now-retired Katerina Witt, at last had the stage to herself.

She made full use of it.

In addition to her five perfect marks, she scored four 5.9s for technical merit as she closed out

any more errors.

Ito, who was third going into the free skating portion, followed with her gold medal-clinching routine. Then it was Trenary's turn in the last performance of the competition.

The American needed a strong display of technique and artistry to beat Leistner and a perfect one to stand a remote chance of catching Ito.

But she blew most of her triple jumps, and lost her way with a performance lacking drive and confidence.

"I didn't watch Ito skate but you couldn't help but hear the crowd," Trenary said. "I'm only human but I'll be back. I've got a lot of talent if I could put it together at the right time."

While a distraught Trenary left the competition in tears, another American, Kristi Yamaguchi, was all smiles after stamping herself as a future star by winding up sixth.

As Ito celebrated Japan's greatest figure skating success, men's champion Browning put her performance into perspective.

"She's a different level from the others," Browning said. "She's the only woman I've seen who could compete with the top men. Her jumping ability is incredible."

Graf and Evert to face off

BOCA RATON, Fla. (R) — Steffi Graf continued her dominating form by routing Hana Sukova 6-2, 6-1 on Saturday to advance to the championship final against Chris Evert in the \$300,000 Florida women's tennis tournament.

Evert, the third seed, struggled at the start before beating the hard-hitting Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia 7-5, 6-1 in her

semifinal.

Graf, who will be trying to capture one of the three titles that eluded her last year, played her best tennis of the week against fourth-seeded Sukova, using superior court coverage to keep the Czechoslovak away from the net and on the defensive.

Sukova started strong with three aces in her first service game but Graf soon found her

measure and repeatedly blasted service return winners.

The top-seeded West German won seven straight games from 4-2 in the first set, dropping just five points on serve, while delivering four love-games in the 54-minute match.

Graf, who has lost just nine games in four matches, said that she thought Sukova would give her more of a challenge.

"I expected more. She couldn't do anything on my serves, and I don't think she had the shots to come to the net. I hope I play as well (against Evert) as I did today," said Graf.

— As Charted By the Carroll Fletcher Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is the general equinox when the sun enters the center of the sign of the Ram, Aries. It is the first day of spring which means in the language of growth, excitement and rebirth.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) It is Monday, and you may feel burned out already. Borrowed will pass, excitement will take its place, and the scenario will change.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Someone at work is making a federal case out of nothing. Avoid a ruckus and let superiors handle the matter.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can be the life of the party, if you can find one. Your good spirits and upbeat personality will continue a few more days.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Concentrate on facts and figures today. You have done a long job and deserve rewards and praise.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Expect some criticism today. Some of that criticism will be fair and some biased. Try not to respond unless it calls for a correction on your part.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your ideas may be met with resistance. You may be judged by how you sound, as well as how you look. Rest and avoid physical burnout.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may find yourself on the appealing

end of a foolish argument. Stay independent, but make the first move to above friendship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You need private space and time to rest. This is all right when you know on the outside is too far from the home nest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Specialize more when seeking advancement. Concentrate your energy into a field that you enjoy and can profit from.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) People will not listen to your words unless you speak on their level of understanding. Be aware of mindless habits that you can correct.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 18) One way to solve a stubborn problem is to agree to disagree. A communication problem exists, and your thoughts are not getting through.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get estimates on an extensive repair project. Weigh all the pros and cons before signing contracts or making commitments.

If Your Child Is Born Today

He or she will be enthusiastic and aggressive with an emotional nature that can inspire others. Your child will be able to sell others on his or her ideas. Such a convincing attitude will have people admiring your progeny's lightning fast mind and intuitive solutions to problems.

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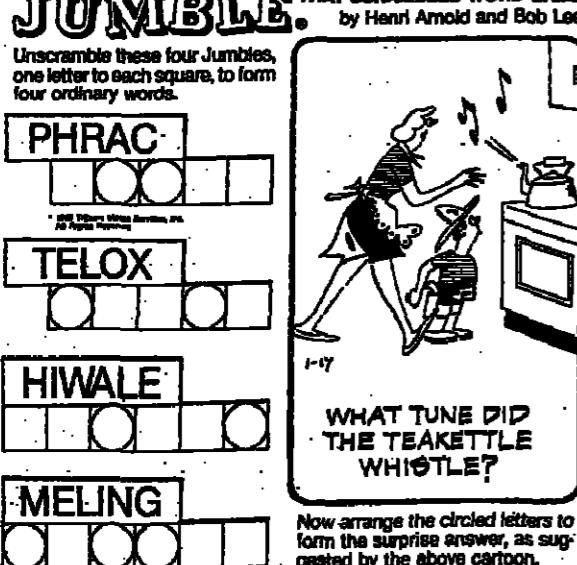
cons before signing contracts or

making commitments.

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris



JUMBLE, THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6

Mecir and Noah meet in final

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (R) — Milosav Mecir derailed Jimmy Connors's bid for a 108th career title and Yannick Noah ended the giant-killing run of Jay Berger in Saturday's semifinals of the Indian Wells Grand Prix.

The American needed a strong display of technique and artistry to beat Leistner and a perfect one to stand a remote chance of catching Ito.

But she blew most of her triple jumps, and lost her way with a performance lacking drive and confidence.

"I didn't watch Ito skate but you couldn't help but hear the crowd," Trenary said. "I'm only human but I'll be back. I've got a lot of talent if I could put it together at the right time."

While a distraught Trenary left the competition in tears, another American, Kristi Yamaguchi, was all smiles after stamping herself as a future star by winding up sixth.

Connors could congratulate themselves on getting to the last eight in the first place and savoured further tributes for the spirit they showed before a late Liverpool

burnt them 4-0.

Manchester United, by contrast, were enraged by a refereeing decision which they felt cost them an equaliser against Nottingham Forest, who held on to win 1-0 in front of England's biggest crowd of the season at United's Old Trafford ground.

West Ham and Norwich settled for a goalless draw and replay Wednesday, while Everton and Wimbledon, Liverpool's conquerors in last year's final, were playing Sunday.

"Brentford made it difficult for us, but I wouldn't have expected anything else," said Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish, a member of the sides which carried off

the European Cup in 1978, 1981 and 1984.

"Deep down I don't think they could have expected to go through. We were expected to go through and that we made it is the most important thing."

Brentford manager Steve Perryman said Liverpool's second goal — a superb solo effort by England winger John Barnes in the 65th minute — had been the killer.

"That's for his conscience. He's the same referee who has given three penalties against us this season and allowed a disputed goal. But that's football. We may get the breaks next week."

play on, judging that Forest's Steve Hodge had hooked the ball clear off the line.

Police officers had to restrain team officials after an angry exchange in the dug-outs.

"The lads all felt the ball was right over the line. The referee was in the best position of anyone but he didn't give it," United manager Alex Ferguson said.

"That's for his conscience. He's the same referee who has given three penalties against us this season and allowed a disputed goal. But that's football. We may get the breaks next week."

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The American staged a brief comeback late in the match, ending back to 4-5 after breaking Mecir in the eighth game and saving a match point when Mecir netted a backhand.

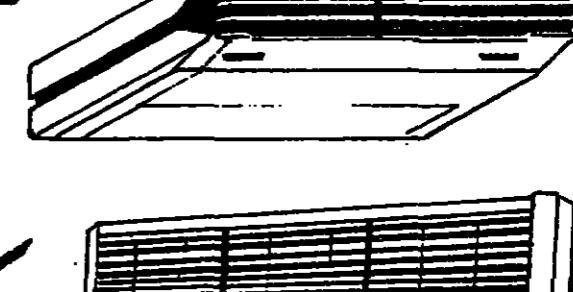
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Salvadoreans vote against backdrop of intense violence

SAN SALVADOR (Agencies) — Security forces killed two Salvadorean journalists as voting got under way Sunday in presidential elections to the sound of bombs exploding in the capital and fighting between government troops and leftist guerrillas on the outskirts.

Mauricio Pineda de Leon, a soundman for Channel 12 local television, was shot dead at a police road block near San Miguel city 140 kilometres east of San Salvador, the driver of their car, Raul Beltran said.

According to William Figueras, a newsman at channel 12, the shooting took place while the crew was enroute from Morazan province to the coastal city of La Union, 181 kilometres from the capital.

Justice of the Peace Manuel de Jesus Aguilar said troops who brought in the body of Roberto Navas, 28, one of the photographers, said the shooting occurred when he and Luis Galdamez, 34, failed to stop at an air force checkpoint late Saturday night.

Armed forces officials were not immediately available for comment. The magistrate said he was told that troops at the checkpoint radioed the next checkpoint

in the run-up to election day with a transport ban and sabotage but said they would not attack polling booths or voters.

Voting began slowly in the capital but those who turned up were enthusiastic.

"I'm really happy. It is my right to vote," said 47-year-old food vendor Maria Concepcion Vasquez de Palacios.

"We are all fed with this war. It must end. Peace and work is what we want from the new president."

Opinion polls suggest the vote, the fifth in El Salvador since 1982, will be won by right-wing millionaire Alfredo Cristiani, but maybe not until after a run-off.

One soldier was killed, witnesses said. Four helicopter gunships strafed the sides of the San Salvador volcano behind San Ramon, drawing rebel fire.

As local radio reported scattered fighting in the countryside, two army helicopters flew into the military hospital pad.

At least half a dozen explosions were heard in different parts of the capital but there was no immediate word of what damage or casualties there might have been.

The guerrillas had kept El Salvador in virtual siege conditions

where soldiers fired at the two men as they passed by on their motorcycle.

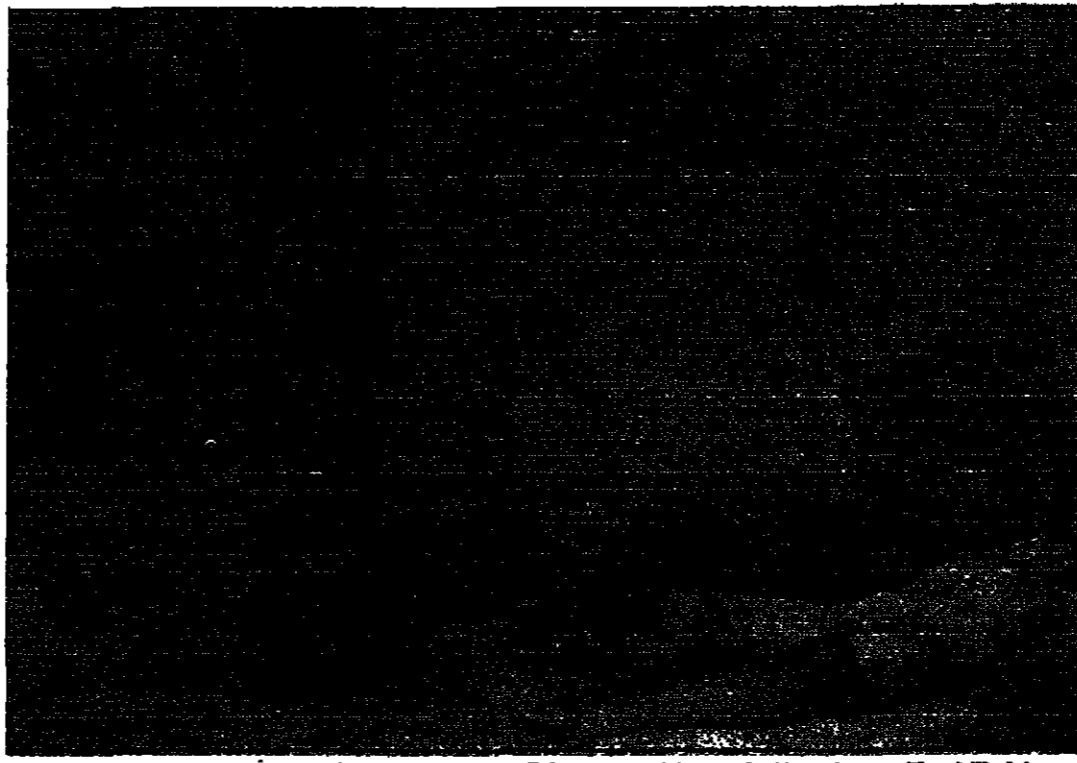
Leftist guerrillas, Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), attacked army positions in the working-class district of San Ramon at about 0500 local time (1100 GMT) and fighting was still going on as the polling booth opened at 1300 GMT, witnesses said.

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The guerrillas had kept El Salvador in virtual siege conditions



Children at the cemetery at Chalatenango, El Salvador, looking at bodies of guerrillas killed in the increased fighting prior to Sunday's elections

ring of the decade.

Cristiani denies the links. "If ARENA has killed all those Salvadoreans why are Salvadoreans going to vote for us. Judge us on how we act," he told a recent news conference.

Cristiani's main challenger is the ruling Christian Democratic Party (PDC) candidate Fidel Chavez Mena, a lawyer who served as foreign minister and planning minister in outgoing President Jose Napoleon Duarte's cabinet.

Chavez Mena has fought a

lackluster campaign, concentrating on warning of the polarisation an ARENA victory would bring.

The third main candidate is Guillermo Ungo of the centre-left Democratic Convergence, who once ruled El Salvador as part of a five-man military-civilian junta and who returned to the country from self-imposed exile last year.

It is the first time the left has taken part in elections since 1979.

Ungo, who represented the FMLN politically and diplomatically while in exile, complains that the U.S.-supplied army is

spreading propaganda calling him a terrorist.

He believes he can come second in the election, putting him in a powerful position during the power broking that will surround a run-off and enabling him to press home his demands for a negotiated end to the guerrilla war, the main reason he gives for standing for president.

All the main candidates talk of a need to end the war but unrest during the campaign offers little cause for optimism.

Discovery plunges back to Earth

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, California (Agencies) — The space shuttle Discovery plunged out of space to a desert landing at dawn Saturday, ending an almost flawless mission that included completion of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) satellite communication system.

"Well done, Discovery. That's one to be proud of," capsule communicator Frank Culbertson said.

The shuttle, bearing a five-man crew, four crippled rats, 32 fertilized chicken eggs and other experiments, landed on schedule at 6:36 a.m. (1436 GMT) on a paved runway on Rogers dry lake, watched by a near-record 460,000 spectators.

"NASA and the country's happy this morning. It's a beautiful day in California," Rear Admiral Richard H. Truly, the space agency's associate administrator, said after Discovery touched down.

NASA television close-ups of the shuttle after its three-million-kilometre trip showed numerous white marks on the black thermal tiles that protect the shuttle's underside from the heat of re-entry.

But at a post-landing news conference described the damage as "a few minor chips."

The five-day mission's main objective, deployment of NASA's third tracking and data relay satellite, was accomplished Monday, the day Discovery was launched from Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral, Florida. Results of a variety of experiments carried out by the crew awaited scientific analysis.

The four rats with intentionally injured leg bones were killed about four hours after landing, as were four others in a control group kept on the ground, NASA spokeswoman Terri Sindelar said. The dead rodents were sent to orthopaedic hospital in Los Angeles for analysis, she said. The eggs were destined for an analysis of weightlessness on embryo development.

The Foreign Ministry in Peking had summoned European Community (EC) diplomats Friday in protest after the issue of Tibetan human rights had been raised in the European Parliament.

A harshly worded commentary carried earlier Saturday by the New China News Agency said Chinese dissidents were trying to mobilise foreign opinion over alleged human rights abuses.

Column

20 years of wigs

PARIS (R) — A young man who lost all his hair in a car accident has been awarded enough money by a French court to keep him in wigs for the next 20 years. The French insurance industry's watchdog group said the insurer of the driver who knocked the youth down would foot the 40,000-franc (\$6,500) bill for the wigs. The group said the 17-year-old, whose identity was not revealed, started losing his hair two weeks after the crash in which he suffered shock and head injuries.

He was also awarded 200,000 francs (\$32,000) damages by the Paris appeal court in addition to the payment for wigs.

Father opens bakery for 3 fat kids

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian father with three young sons who eat 75 loaves a day has been permitted to build a bakery in his home. Karim Khairepo said his sons Kamal, four, Salman, six, and Farman, eight, also need six kilos of cheese and 60 potatoes daily. "They just eat too much," Iran's largest selling evening newspaper Kayhan quoted him as saying. "My children were very thin at the time of their birth..." Kamal weighs 40 kilos, Farman 60 kilos but six-year-old Salman may be a world record holder for his age, tipping the scales at 69 kilos. The children from Miandowab in northwest Iran have a 20-year-old brother and a 14-year-old sister whose weights are average. But baby sister Raheleh appears on track to surpass her heavyweight brothers. After only 40 days she weighs eight kilos.

The report in Kayhan carried by the Iranian News Agency IRNA Saturday said doctors had found nothing physically wrong with the children. The cost of feeding the children is 300,000 rials (\$4,300) a month. The father said though he received money from the Red Crescent and other charities he still finds balancing the family's budget difficult.

Pencil and glasses found a little too late

EAST BERLIN (R) — An East German archivist leafing through a 200-year-old ledger has come across a pencil and pince-nez left by a forgetful trader in 1780. The trader had used the book two centuries ago to keep tabs on money and debtors in the northern town of Schwerin, Adn, the official East German News Agency, said Friday.

Kelly uses any girl to prove point

PARIS (R) — Black American designer Patrick Kelly won over the aloof French fashion industry with a sexy autumn and winter collection scattered with hearts and kisses. Kelly, the only American to gain entry to the Chambre Syndicale, the institution organising eight days of ready-to-wear shows, squeezed his models into dresses that could not have been any closer to the skin. Buttons, a long-standing Kelly gimmick, made a brief appearance at his show Wednesday but they were eclipsed by gold hearts and red plastic kisses, sewn onto dresses and worn as earrings. Jumbo-sized tips made unusual hats. Brilliant colourist — scarlets, yellows, greens and purples — contrasted with blacks and greys. Unlike some other designers who showed their previews on Wednesday, Kelly also gave legs a good run with short hem, high heels and some outrageous glossy leotards for evening wear. "I want to make clothes for all the women in the world — it doesn't matter whether they're short or tall, fat or thin, black or white," he said. To prove the point his girls ranged from standard girafe-like professionals to shorter and more buxom models. The last girl, wearing the traditional white wedding dress, would have done justice to Rubens' portrait.

Quake shakes Athens

ATHENS (R) — An earthquake shook Athens and eastern Greece Sunday, damaging the airport building on the Greek holiday island of Skiathos, police said. The quake, measuring 5.8 points on the open-ended Richter Scale, occurred at 7:23 a.m. local time and was followed by two slightly weaker tremors, the Athens Geological Institute said.

Hormone fights jet lag

LONDON (R) — Jet lag can be alleviated by giving passengers extra doses of a natural hormone found in the brain, researchers said Saturday. Volunteers who flew across 12 time zones from New Zealand to London and then returned three weeks later were given doses of the hormone Melatonin, which is released by the pineal gland of the brain at night. "Melatonin can alleviate jet lag and tiredness after long-haul flights," said a paper written by three New Zealand doctors and published in the British Medical Journal. "Subjects taking melatonin reported less jet lag and took less time to recover from their shift across 12 time zones," the paper said. It said no adverse side-effects were found.

Amid tight security, Chile resumes exports

SANTIAGO (AP) — Under tight military security, Chile's fruit exporters gradually resumed operations Saturday after a four-day suspension that authorities say dealt a devastating blow to the nation's economy.

Shipments of fruit abroad resumed at the nation's ports after the government suspended them when two Chilean grapes in the United States were found to have been laced with cyanide.

President General Augusto Pinochet has called the four-day suspension and the worldwide controversy over the fruit tampering "a catastrophe like an earthquake."

Navy Captain Patricio Urbina, head of the port of Valparaiso, Chile's largest, said two ships were being loaded there Saturday with 700,000 crates of grapes, apples, pears and kiwi fruit. He said navy troops were deployed around the clock throughout the port, and access to the facilities was being tightly controlled.

Other security measures in the ports included issuing new security identity cards to all authorised personnel, and to require employees with access to restricted areas to wear uniforms so they could be quickly identified, Urbina said.

Chile's fruit-exporting industry resumed operations after U.S. President George Bush Friday lifted restrictions on the sale of



'Britain will not follow socialist Europe'

SCARBOROUGH, England (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher vowed Saturday that Britain will fight against the creation of a socialist European super-state, warning it would have "disastrous consequences."

As the 12-nation European Economic forces ahead with plans for a single market by 1992, she reiterated her opposition to any political integration, saying Britain wanted a Europe of independent sovereign states.

"We shall fight against a socialist Europe with its attempts to establish a new bureaucracy, new restrictions and new controls on our lives," she told a conference of her governing Conservative Party's Central Council in this north England coastal city.

Security was tight following the recent discovery of a large arms cache outside Scarborough. The arms seizure raised fears that the Irish Republican Army (IRA) might be planning a bombing.

Authorities excluded aircraft from flying over the city and cordoned off the Spa conference hall, which was surrounded by police.

Thatcher narrowly escaped injury in a 1984 IRA bombing of the conservative party's annual conference in Brighton, which killed five people.

She flew to Scarborough by helicopter and was shadowed by a heavy police guard. At the hall, she walked through an electronic screening device and had her handbag inspected but wasn't physically searched, as were all other delegates.

Last September, the prime minister said Britain was committed to the EC, but she rejected the notion of a "United States of Europe" because she said it would oppose her free-market policies and increase state-control over social issues.

Elaborating on this theme in her speech Saturday, she said, "We have not rejected socialist policies so decisively in Britain only to see them imposed from Brussels with the same disastrous consequences which socialism brings with it wherever it is practised."

Stephen Studdert, who helps plan the prime minister's activities and concerns himself with the president's image, acknowledged that the assessment of Bush's first 60 days in office may be harsh. But Studdert predicts a better report after a year.

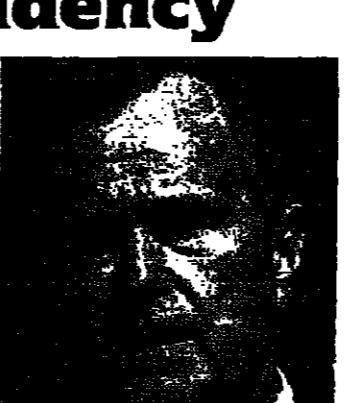
James David Barber, a presidential scholar at Duke University, disagreed.

When Bush talks about vision, he asked, "does that mean anything? When he says something, (wait) until he does it. Drug war? Where is it? Education president? When?"

Frank Greer, a Democratic consultant, said the Bush White House "wasted tremendous political capital, on the battle to win confirmation of former Senator John Tower as secretary of defense. Tower was rejected in a storm over his alleged ties with defense contractors, heavy drinking and philandering.

"History has shown that the first 100 days will prove the tone and the effectiveness of a new administration, and he's wasted two-thirds of it," Greer said.

"And I think what you're headed for is a weak presidency."



legislative proposals on such issues as child care and the minimum wage.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

12 vote against Gorbachev

MOSCOW (R) — Twelve people voted against Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev in Communist Party elections to the new Soviet Parliament, the party daily Pravda said Sunday. The most votes cast against any candidate — 78 — went against Politburo member Yegor Ligachev, the party official who is in charge of agriculture and is widely considered lukewarm on Gorbachev's reforms. The publication on Pravda's front page marked the first time in recent memory that detailed results of a party election had been announced in the Soviet media. Gorbachev and Ligachev were among 100 candidates for 100 seats reserved for the Communist Party in the Congress of People's Deputies. All 100 were easily elected at an expanded plenum of the party's Central Committee last week. With 641 people voting, Pravda said Gorbachev received 629 votes in support of his candidacy and 12 against.

Liberian tanker sinks

TOKYO (R) — A Liberian-registered chemical tanker, drifting ablaze off Japan since Tuesday, sank Sunday with no sign of the 23 crewmen, officials of the maritime safety agency said. The 39,723-tonne Maasgus disappeared from the radar screen of their patrol boat shortly after it appeared to break in half, about 390 kilometres southwest of Cape Imubo, they added. The search for the four British officers and 19 Filipino seamen had been unsuccessful as the vessel continued blazing and exploding just before sinking, they said. The vessel carried inflammable chemicals from Houston, Texas, to the Japanese ports of Yokohama and Kawasaki, near Tokyo. The cause of the fire was unknown, they said.

Nakasone pressure mounts

TOKYO (R) — A senior member of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party has publicly called on former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to testify before parliament on a widening share scandal. Party elder Raizo Matsuno told Reuters in an interview Saturday that the Recruit scandal was rooted in the Nakasone administration from 1983 to 1987 and that the former premier should therefore appear before parliament over the issue. Matsuno, 72, a member of parliament for four decades and a former agriculture minister, is believed to be the first party elder to publicly call for Nakasone to appear before parliament. "Apart from the question of whether Mr. Nakasone was legally involved in this affair or not, I think he should not evade political responsibility if the problem did happen during his administration," Matsuno said. "So, I think Mr. Nakasone should appear in parliament to explain his political position and answer questions," he added.

Anglicans try not to split

CHICAGO (R) — Anglican leaders have drafted new guidelines in a bid to head off a split over ordaining woman bishops in the church, which has 70 million members worldwide, the primate of Ireland said Saturday. New pastoral methods are needed to head off a split over the recent ordination on Barbara Harris of Boston as the first woman bishop of U.S. Episcopalians, said Archbishop Robin Eames of Armagh, Northern Ireland. Eames heads an Anglican Unity Commission set up by Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie. Bishop of London Graham Leonard has declared himself in disagreement with U.S. Episcopal Primate Edmond Browning and the 34 other American bishops who consecrated Harris.

Paraguay parties gather

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Two opposition parties that had hinted they might boycott national elections opened party conventions on Saturday and were expected to select candidates for the May 1 balloting. Fernando Vera, a likely presidential nominee, said his leftist Revolutionary Febrerista Party "could hardly expect to win" but nevertheless feels it should challenge the ruling Colorado Party, in power since